



# AMEDDC&S Newsletter

*The AMEDD Center & School...Army Medicine Starts Here!*

## AMEDDC&S salutes veterans



Charlie Company, 187th Medical Battalion Soldiers march down Alamo Street in San Antonio carrying a 20x40 US Flag during the annual Veterans Day Parade held Nov. 9. This is the second year that the company has participated in the parade. See **VETERANS, P6**, for more photos.

## 30 years of Accreditation with COE

The AMEDDC&S has maintained accreditation by the Council on Occupational Education (COE), formerly known as the Commission on Occupational Education Institutions (COEI) of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools since 1983.

The COE is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a reliable authority on the quality of education offered by the insti-

tutions it has accredited. Its current scope of recognition is as a national agency for the accreditation of non-degree-granting and applied associate degree-granting, postsecondary occupational education institutions.

To commemorate our 30 years of accreditation the AMEDDC&S

was presented a certificate at the COE annual meeting held in November.



**Volume 2, Issue 6**

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**December 2013**



The winter holiday season provides the opportunity to spend time and celebrate with family and friends.

While the holiday season is often a time for celebration, it can also be stressful, potentially affecting your health. Keep an eye on your commitments and spending. Embrace the Army's Performance Triad (Sleep, Activity, and Nutrition) by maintaining a healthy diet, exercise on a regular basis and ensure you are getting enough sleep. Get support from family and friends and reach out if you need help.

If you are expecting guests, be a good host/hostess and offer non-alcoholic beverages. Be responsible; don't hesitate to take the keys of a guest who has had one too many!

Enjoy the holidays with family and friends while taking time to reflect on the blessings of the past year.

### Inside this issue:

2013 Mission Thanksgiving	2
IPASS students give back to community	5
AMEDDC&S salutes veterans	6
SHARP update	8
America needs PAs	10
32nd Medical Brigade highlights	15



## 2013 Mission Thanksgiving festivities



Left, 243 families line up in Willis Hall to sign out Soldiers to take with them and enjoy a home away from home for Thanksgiving Day activities.

Below, former radio newscaster, Bud Little, and his daughter, welcome six Soldiers to spend Thanksgiving Day at their home.



Left, JBSA and 502nd Air Base Wing, Command Chief, Chief Master Sgt. Alexander Perry; JBSA Commander, Brig. Gen. Robert LaBrutta; Maj. Gen. Steve Jones, Commanding General, AMEDDC&S; Capt. Gail Hathaway, Commander, Navy Medicine Training Command; and AMEDDC&S Command Sgt. Maj. Gerald Ecker, slice the cake celebrating Thanksgiving Day at Slagel Dining Facility.



Military personnel get ready to enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving meal at Slagel Dining Facility.

From right Col. Jonathan Fristoe, Maj. Gen. Steve Jones, Command Sgt. Maj. Gerald Ecker and other senior leaders donned chef's hats to serve the young troops on Thanksgiving Day.

Photos by Phil Reidinger, AMEDDC&S Communications/  
Public Affairs Office



## 450+ Soldiers and Sailors honored with Thanksgiving Dinner at Valero Headquarters



**32d Medical Brigade Soldiers and Navy Medicine Education and Training Command Sailors are treated to a traditional holiday meal on Thanksgiving day by volunteers from Valero Corporation Headquarters in San Antonio. This marked the ninth year of the “Thanksgiving with the Troops” event. Photos by Esther Garcia, AMEDDC&S Communication Office**

By Larry Coffee  
NMETC PAO

Approximately 425 Army and Navy enlisted students from the Medical Education and Training Campus at Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA) Fort Sam Houston were provided a traditional holiday meal on Thanksgiving Day by volunteers from Valero Corporation.

This marked the ninth year of the “Thanksgiving with the Troops” event at Valero’s international corporate headquarters in San Antonio and the second year Navy Medicine students participated with the Army,

said Eric Andres, a Valero employee and the event coordinator.

Approximately 200 Valero employees and families served the food, provided door prizes and entertainment. Leftover meals were donated to a Veterans of Foreign War post in the San Antonio area.

“I think it’s phenomenal that employees of a Fortune 500 company would come in on Thanksgiving and do this for the military,” said Col. Jonathan Fristoe, commander of the JBSA Fort Sam Houston-based 32d Medical Brigade, US Army Medical Department Center

and School. “It’s really a demonstration of what San Antonio calls the Military City USA in action. It’s a tremendous opportunity for the Soldiers and Sailors to get out of the barracks, to get off post, to come out here and get a little bit of a taste of home.”

That taste of home included over 250 pounds of turkey, 125 pounds of potatoes, and 100 pounds each of green beans, corn and dressing along with gravy, rolls and a full dessert

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See *THANKSGIVING*, P4

## **THANKSGIVING, from P3**

buffet. The Army and Navy students watched football games and parades on big screens during dinner. They also competed in localized game shows like Jeopardy, and students played card and board games such as poker, blackjack, Uno and dominoes.

Winners earned tickets that were placed in a basket and drawn at the end of the afternoon along with other door prizes. The competition was highlighted by the "Military's Got Talent" karaoke contest.

Pvt. Brandon Spaulding, a combat medic student who participated in poker, said, "They really went all out and are making us feel comfortable. The food is awesome, the baked goods are amazing, and the festivities here are great."

Seaman Recruit Brandon Bustamante, a Navy hospital corps student, was another of several Army and Navy students at the poker table.

"I've only been here in school for about a week and a half," Bustamante said. "But I've enjoyed getting out of school today, coming out and having fun, blowing off a little steam."

Valero employee and volunteer Charlie Dominguez was the dealer at Bustamante and Spaulding's table.

"The reason we can enjoy the things we do is because we have these young men and women out there protecting us. It's really great that we can do this for them," Dominguez said.

Navy Capt. Gail Hathaway, commander, Navy Medicine Education and Training Command, pointed out the impact that Valero's volunteer efforts have on San Antonio's

service members.

"The separation from family that the military experiences can sometimes be difficult," Hathaway said. "Community volunteer efforts like this make it easier for our young Sailors and Soldiers during the holidays. Plus, it shows our troops that the community supports them and appreciates their sacrifice."

But in the end, the Valero volunteers seemed to gain as much from the Thanksgiving Day events as the Soldiers and Sailors.

"Thanksgiving with the Troops is an uplifting volunteer event," Andres said. "Our volunteers are able to show our local military community firsthand how thankful we are for their service. It is the least we can do to give our Soldiers and Sailors a home away from home for a few



Right, Col. Jonathan Fristoe, 32d Medical Brigade commander, left, Capt. Gail Hathaway, commander, Navy Medicine Education and Training Command, and 32d Medical Brigade Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Gragg, standing in the back, thank Valero employees for their support.



Valero employees greet Soldiers and Sailors as they arrive at Valero Headquarters for a Thanksgiving Day meal.



Approximately 200 Valero employees and their families served a traditional Thanksgiving meal and drinks to the Soldiers and Sailors at the 9th annual "Thanksgiving with the Troops" festivities held at Valero Corporation Headquarters.



## IPASS students give back to the community



By Capt. Chelsea Tersavich  
IPASS President

Students attending the Army Medical Department Center and School Interservice Physician Assistant Program (IPAP) emphasize the importance of involvement in the community surrounding Fort Sam Houston and the greater San Antonio area, in spite of the fact that they are full time students. Men and women from all branches of military service and all different regions of the United States are brought together in the IPAP schoolhouse for 16 months of classroom education, followed by a 13-month clinical rotation in a military treatment facility. Although there is limited time spent outside of the classroom, students involved in the Interservice Physician Assistant Student Society (IPASS) volunteer to coordinate, organize, and assist with local service projects. The primary focus for community service has been centered at the Church Under the Bridge (CUB) - a volunteer organization that serves the homeless community of greater San Antonio both physically and spiritually.

CUB provides homeless persons with meals three nights a week, hygiene kits, and personal clothing as well as temporary lodging. Officer Candidate Drury Sweetser, the IPASS Community Relations Chairperson, sought out volunteer opportunities at

CUB with the assistance of Army Maj. Ronnie Bigham, an IPAP instructor. Sweetser was seeking to help IPASS extend its outreach opportunities into the city, and CUB provided the opportunity to directly help others with hands-on volunteering.

Previous IPASS outreach efforts include large-scale clothing drives during the summer months, which resulted in approximately 500 total outfits given to CUB shelter occupants. IPAP students not only transported the clothes to the shelter, they also sorted, organized them by sizes and type, and assisted the CUB staff to help hand the clothing directly to the recipients.

"We were so honored to be asked," said Capt. Chelsea Tersavich, an IPAP junior, and the current IPASS President.

Due to the overwhelming response from IPASS in their initial efforts, Sweetser made direct connections with CUB staff to help with the shelter's daily outpouring of food and material support.

In late July, IPASS members supported Church Under the Bridge with the nightly meal distribution for the first time. Pizza, salads, beverages, and desserts were served to over 250 individuals; other students helped with baking and cleaning the CUB cafeteria.

OC Ricky Gibson, a sophomore student in IPAP, said, "It was extremely rewarding, and a tremendous way to help give back to the community of San Antonio."

Using the momentum from donations and volunteering at CUB, Sweetser has generated

more community service opportunities for IPAP students.

Landscaping and maintenance projects were completed at the Brooke Army Medical Center Fisher House, which provides free temporary lodging for families visiting wounded service members.

In September, IPAP students filled 20 boxes with children's clothing and toys for the local Ronald McDonald House.

Even through the broadening of volunteer efforts, Sweetser has helped maintain the original relationship with Church Under the Bridge. Most recently, students performed an intense cleaning of the entire shelter to ensure a healthy and clean environment for those seeking assistance at CUB.

"The staff at Church Under the Bridge has been so welcoming and open," she says, "and it helps develop the sense of community and outreach that we learn in IPAP."

While we are in the classroom a lot, volunteer activities like Church Under the Bridge and the Fisher House remind students of the basic reason we all volunteered to be Physician Assistants: to help those in need and improve the community."

**Below, Maj. Ronnie Bigham, IPAP instructor, and a student, unload donated items at Church Under the Bridge.**

Photos by Esther Garcia





## VETERANS from P1



A thank you to AMEDDC&S leaders; 32d Medical Brigade Soldiers; Company C, 187th Medical Battalion; the NCO Academy; members of the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club; Maj. Gina Estrada, National Guard Advisor; Royce Patton, Classroom Management Support; Sgt. 1st Class Rafael Colon, NCO Academy; Deborah Seguin, Command Suite; Staff Sgt. Douglas Smith; and 1st Lt. Kourtney Fete, for taking time out during a long holiday weekend to come out and salute veterans at the annual Veterans Parade held Nov. 9 in San Antonio. Sponsored by the US Military Veterans Parade Association, AMEDDC&S joined more than 200 entries to celebrate America's military week. Photos by Esther Garcia





## Future social workers embark on a new career



Photo by Phil Reidinger. Future social workers graduate from the Army Master's of Social Work program and are presented with certificates during a ceremony held Nov. 22 in Blesse Auditorium, Willis Hall.

By Dexter Freeman  
Assistant Director  
Army-Fayetteville State University  
Master of Social Work Program

The Army Master's Social Work program is a 14-month graduate social work program. After completing requirements for the MSW degree, students attend a 2 year social work post-masters internship at a select military medical facility or Veteran Administration hospital for Army National Guard graduates.

The Army MSW program has been affiliated with Fayetteville State University and their Department of Social Work since Febru-

ary 2008. Fayetteville State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the Department of Social Work is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

The program is open to active duty officers that are in the Medical Service Corps; Department of the Army Civilians working in the Army Medical Command; civilians and enlisted Soldiers who have applied to become active duty MSC officers and have been accessed by the US Army Recruiting Command; MSC officers in the Army National Guard and Reserves; and competitive category

active duty commissioned officers that have transferred to the MSC. Active duty commissioned officers in the US Navy are also approved on a space available basis.

The program is specifically tailored to meet graduate education needs in theoretical and applied skills, knowledge, and abilities necessary to effectively prepare future military social workers to advocate, evaluate, research, and facilitate growth in individuals, Families, groups, organizations, and communities as social work professionals operating in a military environment.



## AMEDDC&S SHARP team ready to offer assistance



Right, Sgt. 1st Class Carmen Ross is the Army Medical Department Center and School Sexual Assault Response Coordinator. Left is Sgt. 1st Class Tritonya Murray, Victim Advocate.

"We handle all sexual harassment and/or sexual assault cases reported within the AMEDDC&S, whether Civilian, staff, or student population. We ensure each victim receives the proper medical care and services after an incident. We also conduct and report mandatory SHARP classes and briefings," said Murray. The SARC office is located in Willis Hall, Bldg., 2841, Room 1333, 221-7697.

According to the Army Public Affairs Office, G1, victims of sexual assault now have the option to have legal representation following a sexual assault. During criminal proceedings in a courtroom, the defendant has a lawyer. The state is also represented by their own lawyer, the prosecuting attorney. But the victims of sexual assault have historically not had the benefit of a state-provided advocate as they are interviewed, as they testify on the witness stand, and as they move through the other complexities of the criminal justice system. This is no longer the case. [Read more on page 9.](#)

### **Other contact options for victims:**

**DoD Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247 or**

**JBSA Installation hotline at (210) 808-7272. Victims may also receive assistance through online chat at [www.safehelpline.org](http://www.safehelpline.org), or text \*55-247.**

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**STAND-TO! Edition: Monday, December 2, 2013**

**FOCUS: SHARP: Special Victim Counsel Program**

**What is it?**

**The U.S. Army's Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) program is a key component of efforts to make the force ready and resilient.**

**The Army is committed to preventing sexual assault. The Army provides assurance to all sexual assault victims that the offenders are going to be held ...**

**Read More:**

[http://www.army.mil/standto/archive\\_2013-12-02/?s\\_cid=standto](http://www.army.mil/standto/archive_2013-12-02/?s_cid=standto)



## Sexual assault victims now entitled to their own lawyer

By C. Todd Lopez  
Army News Service

Victims of sexual assault now have the option to have legal representation following a sexual assault.

During criminal proceedings in a courtroom, the defendant has a lawyer. The state is also represented by their own lawyer, the prosecuting attorney. But the victims of sexual assault have historically not had the benefit of a state-provided advocate as they are interviewed, as they testify on the witness stand, and as they move through the other complexities of the criminal justice system.

This is no longer the case.

Beginning Nov. 1, 2013, Soldiers who report that they have been the victim of a sexual assault can elect to have a Special Victims Counsel (SVC) assigned to them. An SVC is an active duty Army attorney, provided at no charge to the victim, who will represent the victim's interest throughout the course of the legal proceedings that might follow the report of a sexual assault.

Col. Jay McKee, an Army lawyer with the Army's Office of the Judge Advocate General, serves as the program manager for the Army's Special Victims Counsel program.

"Once the crime happens, or alleged crime happens, and the victim is seen by a victim advocate, or at the hospital or by Victim Witness Liaison -- however the victim is taken into the system -- they are notified that they have a right to an SVC."

It is a misconception, McKee said, that the prosecuting attorney in a criminal case represents the victim of a crime. The prosecutor represents the government's inter-

ests or society's. But McKee added that in almost all cases those governmental interests are the same as the victim's: to see that justice is done.

"The prosecutor wants justice. He is serving the community, he is serving the military justice system for good order and discipline of the force," McKee said. "And 99 percent of the time, that interest is aligned with the victim's. They want the same thing." But sometimes, McKee said, the victim might have concerns that require the assistance of an attorney.

For example, the defense attorneys might also want to bring into the trial a victim's medical records or past sexual history. That might possibly damage a victim's reputation or embarrass her.

"They can try to get that introduced on the record," McKee said. "The defense is there to represent the defendant, the accused, they are going to put on the best case for the accused. Sometimes that is not in the best interest of the victim to undergo cross examination in a public trial about her past sexual history or to have her personal medical records be reviewed by parties to a courts-martial."

The SVC can help the victim make sense of the ramifications of trial, and help her understand what will happen. McKee also said that while the SVC will not participate in the "adversarial portion" of a trial -- in that there will not be a third table in the courtroom for the SVC and the victim -- the SVC will be able to make motions on behalf of the victim, talk to the Special Victim Prosecutor, the trial council, trial defense attorney, and the staff judge advocate "in terms of what justice looks like for the victim."

Right now, there are about 45

SVCs in the Army, across the United States, and in Europe. There will soon be an SVC in Afghanistan as well. The total number of SVCs the Army will ultimately need will be determined after a year of evaluating manpower needs for SVCs, McKee said.

Special Victims Counsel are nominated for service out of the existing pool of Army lawyers, and serve for no more than two years. They are chosen after an evaluation based on their military justice experience, maturity, and judgment. Those chosen for the program undergo three days of training, which includes classes on professional responsibility, military rules of evidence, the Army's parole system, forensic medical exams, rules for practicing as an SVC, and classes from professionals who teach about how to treat and talk with a victim of a sexual assault.

Sometimes a sexual assault case is not tried in a military criminal court, but instead in a civilian criminal court. McKee said in those cases, the Army will also provide a special victims counselor to Soldiers who are victims of sexual assault. The SVC cannot appear in the local civil court, but can help explain the process and provide victims with legal assistance advice, such as helping them get a civilian restraining order against the accused.

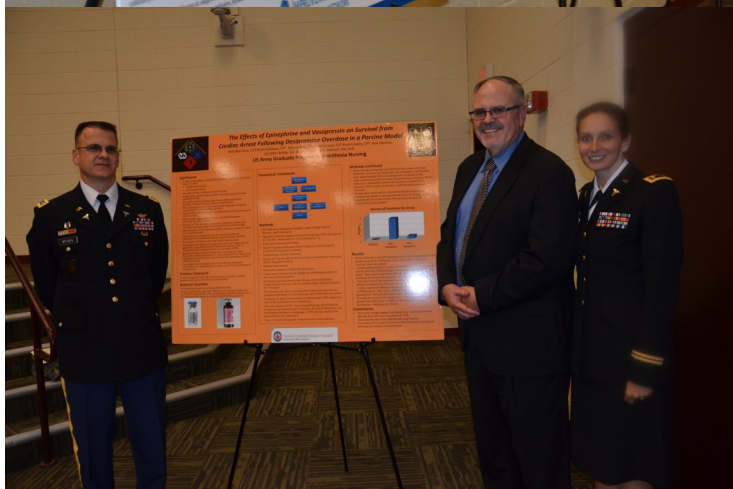
### Related links:

[www.army.mil/sharp](http://www.army.mil/sharp)

[www.preventsexualassault.army.mil](http://www.preventsexualassault.army.mil)



## Academy of Health Sciences Graduate School 3rd Annual Research Day



**Left, Maj. Fred Weigel and right, Maj. Renee Cole, AHS Graduate School Research Council Co-Chairs with Don Johnson, US Army Graduate Program in Anesthesia, Director of Research, winner of the Best Poster Presentation award.**

By Phil Reidinger & Esther Garcia  
AMEDDC&S Communication Office

For the first time, military and civilian researchers (and graduate students) within central and southern Texas gathered at the Army Medical Department Center and School on Dec. 11 for the Academy of Health Sciences Graduate School, 3rd Annual Research Day to share healthcare research findings and build new collaborations.

Civilian academic organizations participating in this one day event included the University of Texas at

San Antonio; University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio; University of Texas School of Public Health; University of the Incarnate Word; St. Mary's University; Texas State University; Texas A&M University; and Baylor University.

Research day began with event registration and remarks by Col. Josef Moore, Dean, AHS Graduate School, and Maj. Gen. Steve Jones, commanding general, Army Medical Department Center and School followed by keynote speaker, Col. Russ Kotwal, Director,

Trauma Care Delivery, Joint Trauma System, US. Army Institute of Surgical Research.

Participants then attended several break-out sessions. Presenters from the Air Force, St. Mary's University, Texas State University, UTHSCSA, and University of the Incarnate Word covered topics on forming effective military and civilian academic research collaborations, conducting interprofessional education and research, and other key research topics of interest.

Military and civilian researchers presented a total of 26 posters that covered subjects such as A Direct Observational Study Evaluating Prehospital Medical Documentation of a Simulated Combat Casualty by Military Medical Providers; Effects of Tetrahydropalmitate on PTSD-induced Changes in Rat Brain Gene Expression; The Application of Moral Hazard in Healthcare: Gaps in Moderating Variables and Relative Benefits; Relationship between Time of Day Tested and Lumbar Spine Strength and Endurance; and Prevalence of Abnormal Serum Lipids Among Overweight and Obese Soldiers. The Effects of Epinephrine and Vasopressin on Survival from Cardiac Arrest Following Desipramine Overdose in a Porcine Model presented by Don Johnson, director, AHS Graduate School Program, Director of Research won for Best Poster Presentation.

Development of a Traumatic Brain Injury Assessment Score using Novel Biomarkers Discovered Through Profiling presented

**See AHS, P11.**



## AHS from P10

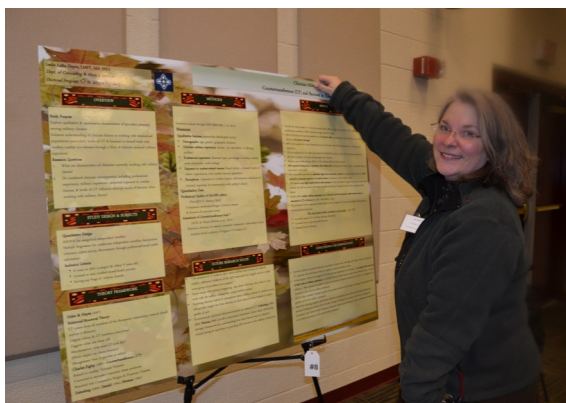
by Maj. John Buonora, Emergency Medicine, received the Best Platform presentation award.

Dr. Leslie LaRo Hayes, Marriage and Family Therapist, St. Mary's University, said, "I am very excited to be here. I was able to see the medical side and hear the different views and conversations of the various topics."




Left, participants register for the AHS Graduate School 3rd Annual Research Day Dec. 11.

Below, Navy Capt. Todd Sander and Army Capt. Karen Daigle check out the posters on display in Blesse Auditorium at the AHS Graduate School 3rd Annual Research Day Dec. 11.




Left, Dr. Leslie Hayes, Marriage and Family Therapist, St. Mary's University, prepares to take down her poster. This is the first year civilian organizations have participated in Research Day at the AMEDDC&S.






### Fort Sam Houston Service Members

## Do YOU want to become a MEDICAL OFFICER?



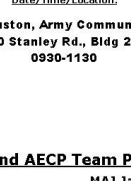
The Inter-Service Physician Assistant (IPAP) and Army Nurse Corps Commission Program (AECPP) and other Medical Commissioning Program qualifications and application procedures will be briefed by IPAP and AECPP Program Managers from Fort Knox, KY.

Date/Time/Location:  
**7 January 2014, Fort Sam Houston, Army Community Service (ACS) Auditorium,  
 3060 Stanley Rd., Bldg 2797  
 0930-1130**




**PA and AECPP Team POC**

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**EXPLORE  
YOUR FUTURE**

Interested Service members only need to attend one briefing.



### Free tickets available for US Army All-American Bowl

The MWR Ticket Office and 502 FSS Marketing Department has received a limited number of free tickets for this years U.S. Army All-American Bowl football game. This game will be played at the Alamodome Jan. 4. Tickets are now being distributed at the MWR Ticket Office (located in the Sam Houston Community Center, building 1395, Chaffee Rd.) and at the 502 FSS Marketing Office (located at building 124 on Stanley Rd. 2nd floor) to DOD ID cardholders on a first-come, first-serve basis while supplies last. There will be a limit of 6 tickets per person, in which the DOD ID card holder must be present. For more information, call 808-1378.



## America needs PAs, America needs Military PAs, America needs Army PAs



By Col. John Balser, Lt. Col. John Detro,  
Maj. Amelia Duran-Stanton, Col. Pauline  
Gross and Lt. Col. Jeffrey Oliver

The modern Physician Assistant profession officially began on October 6, 1967. This was the date the first Physician Assistant class of three students with background as Navy Corpsmen graduated from the Duke University PA Program. From this humble beginning, there are now more than 90,000 nationally certified PAs and 181 accredited programs and the profession continues to grow.

National Physician Assistant Week is celebrated annually from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> of October. This year's theme is "**America Needs PAs.**" The military Physician Assistant community held several events to celebrate PA Week.

Military Physician Assistants serve our nation from the White House, to the most austere environments across the globe. They serve in all branches of the military

to include Active Duty, Reserve and National Guard, and the United States Coast Guard. Military PAs are in all 54 United States and the U.S. territories. We currently have military PAs serving on nearly every continent, in every ocean, air space, and the coastal waters of this Great Nation. They are standing ready to take care of our country's sons and daughters that are in harm's way.

Military Physician Assistants are highly trained mainly through the Interservice Physician Assistant Program (IPAP). The Interservice Physician Assistant Program (IPAP) is ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in the nation and currently graduates 210 multi-service, multi-compo servicemen and women annually. The rigorous 29-month two phased program consists of a 16-month didactic Phase 1 held at JBSA Fort Sam Houston, Texas and the 13-month clinical Phase 2 at 21 Air Force, Navy, and Army medical treatment

facilities. The University of Nebraska Medical Center is affiliated with IPAP awarding students a Master's in Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS).

The Army Physician Assistants are the main healthcare providers for Soldiers both in Garrison and while deployed. As deployments start slowing down, the need for the PA in these units will not diminish. Soldiers and their Commanders rely upon their PA in order to preserve the fighting strength. In concert with all of the changes that we see on the horizon as to how health care is to be delivered to all of our Soldiers, the role of the PA in these new initiatives must be included in order for the Army to function. Always the silent provider, PAs work behind the scenes to ensure that the cogs of the Army machine continue to run smoothly. Without this asset, things can come to a halt quickly. America needs the Army Physician Assistants and they are truly the embodiment of those who are "Serving to Heal...Honored to Serve!"

If you are interested in becoming an Army PA, here are helpful websites:

USAREC Army PA  
<http://www.usarec.army.mil/armypa/>

Interservice Physician Assistant Program  
<http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/ipap/>

2012-2013 PA Week Music  
Slideshow prepared by Capt. Joanna Sanford  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xS5jC6iAVPQ&feature=youtu.be>



## Students celebrate Physician Assistant Week with various activities

Physician Assistants (PAs) from JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and the students from the Interservice Physician Assistant Program participated in various activities throughout the month of October celebrating Physician Assistants Month such as a community outreach program at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Post Exchange to provide information on the PA profession and health promotion. The representing PAs provided information and guidance on the PA profession as well as health promotion information to visitors. A 34-year-old obese, new-onset diabetic, learned about the FSH Walking Program. An 84-year-old veteran learned that activity throughout the day as opposed to a “workout program” is also beneficial to health. Other activities included mentorship/networking during luncheons, dinners and meetings to include a breakfast at Rocco Dining Facility in honor of Louis Rocco who was a Physician Assistant. Table displays for recruiting purposes were held at Rocco and Slagel Dining Facilities to provide information to students in training. A picnic was held at Salado Park where a proclamation signed by Mayor Julian Castro was read proclaiming PA Week. A 5k run in Austin to support a local charity and the Performance Triad ended the celebration.

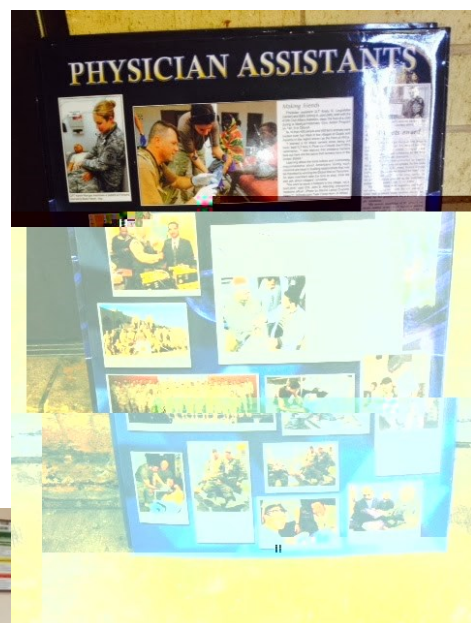


Top photo, Capt. Chelsea Tersavich, President, Interservice Physician Assistant Student Society, converses with visitors outside the post exchange.



Below photo, Maj. Amelia Duran-Stanton and Maj. Richard Newport discuss what the PA profession provides to the Armed Services and health care beneficiaries.

Posters were on display at Rocco and Slagel Dining Facilities to provide information about the PA profession.



A proclamation signed by Mayor Julian Castro, City of San Antonio, proclaiming PA Week is read at Salado Park. Right photo, PAs enjoy breakfast at Rocco Dining Facility.





2nd Annual ACS Lending Closet Drive  
27 November 2013 - 9 January 2014

Do you have any household items (new or used) that you are not using?

Help and support Soldiers and Family Members across JBSA through the ACS Lending Closet! The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club is hosting its annual Joint Base wide drive with a goal to increase the current ACS Lending Closet Inventory by 80%

How do I help?

Various collection boxes can be found around AMEDDC&S, the Commissary, and respective Brigade/Battalion areas. If you are having trouble finding one, or wish to arrange for your items to be picked up, simply e-mail to the email address below and we will coordinate with you. You are also encouraged to start your own collection box in your work areas, just let us know where they are!

Thanks for all that you do, if you have any additional questions please feel free to ask!

Staff Sgt. Adam Sahlberg  
President  
Sergeant Audie Murphy Club  
SMA Leon Van Autreve Chapter



Items must be in good condition  
(New or Used)

**Requested Items:**  
**Any household items**

Blenders  
Booster Seats  
Bowls  
Brooms  
Cups  
Dust pans  
Ironing Boards  
Irons  
Measuring cups  
Microwaves  
Pans  
Plates  
Pots  
Silverware  
Skillets  
Small appliances  
Vacuum cleaners

## ACS Lending Closet Supply Drive

Sponsored by the SMA Leon Van Autreve Chapter of  
the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club

**27 November 2013 – 9 January 2014**

**Question: Do you have any household items (new or used) that you are not using?**

**Answer: Yes. Let's donate them to the ACS Lending Closet located at 3060 Stanley Rd, BLDG 2797.**

**All donated items will benefit the military servicemen and women who are stationed at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston!!**



If you would like to donate, please contact us at  
[ACSHelp20@gmail.com](mailto:ACSHelp20@gmail.com) or 210-221-2705.



*Let's help our fellow servicemen and women!!!*



*Self-help, service and stability*

## 32d Medical Brigade highlights



### 32d Medical Brigade Chaplain Oxygen Training Review Relationship Enrichment

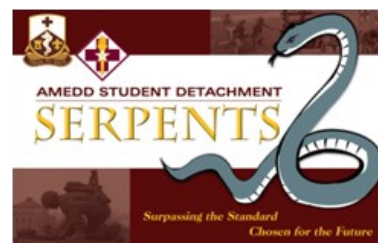
Ten couples and four Families came out for two days of relationship enrichment training held at the AMEDD Chapel and Canyon Lake. The first day consisted of three hours of training plus fellowship while the second day included five hours of training along with fun on the lake in canoes, kayaks, paddle boats, and water trikes. They were taught skills and techniques on how to relate better with their spouse, communication, conflict resolution, intimacy, and forgiveness. Through the USO and Chaplaincy funds the brigade was able to provide dinner the first day and lunch the second day. In addition, childcare was available both days during the sessions and during the time at the lake the second day for those children too young to enjoy the water activities.



### AMEDD Student Detachment, 187th Medical Battalion

#### Newest Army Nurses

On Oct. 4 the AMEDD Student Detachment, 187th Medical Battalion, conducted a commissioning ceremony for six graduates of the Army Enlisted Commissioning Program, which produces new Army Nurse Corps officers. Graduates complete a rigorous two year program and graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Lt. Col. General Miller, Nursing Education Branch Chief, provided congratulatory remarks.





## Cont'd, 32d Medical Brigade highlights

### C Company, 187th Medical Battalion Humanitarian effort

Between Oct 29 to Nov. 1, 1st Lt. Christopher Donaghe, C Company, 187th Medical Battalion, took part in joint missions with Afghan Uniformed Police to provide and transport sustenance to Ghorak, Afghanistan. The Kandahar Provincial Police Chief bought the flour, which was airlifted to Ghorak as a gift for the Afghan Police in the Northwest part of the Province. Donaghe, along with Soldiers assigned to the 2nd Cavalry Regiment on Forward Operating Base Walton, Afghanistan, loaded 100-pound sacks of flour onto a CH-47 Chinook Helicopter, which flew them to Ghorak, Afghanistan. US Soldiers and Afghan Uniformed Police unloaded the flour onto pallets which were transported to Afghan Uniformed Police in Ghorak.



### AMEDD Basic Officer Leader Class-141 week 4 of training

A Company, 187th Medical BOLC-141, in preparation for the upcoming field training exercise, conducted squad level movements, hands on training with the M16, a "Zombie Apocalypse Fun Run", qualifying on the 9mm, and hands on training loading and unloading casualties.





## Cont'd, 32d Medical Brigade highlights



### 187th Medical Battalion 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Multicultural Luncheon

The 187th Medical Battalion hosted their 7<sup>th</sup> annual Multicultural Luncheon on Nov. 22 at Dodd Chapel with over 200 people in attendance. The event, as in past years, has served as a time to recognize people of all ethnicities, while celebrating the Thanksgiving Holiday. Coupled with an array of foods from countries such as the US, Germany, Asia, Jamaica, Hungary, Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and many more, this event proved to be the best ever. Music was provided by the 323d Army Band "Fort Sam's Own", for the fourth year in a row, the Folkloric Dancers and Aloha Grill Dancers volunteered their time to entertain. The entertainment grew, with the addition of The Korean Wives Dance Club and Salsa Dancing by 187's own 1st Lt. Arturo Diaz. Lt. Col. Rachele Smith and Command Sgt. Maj. Dena Jimenez, the 187<sup>th</sup> Medical Battalion Commander and Command Sergeant Major, presented each entertainer with a Certificate of Appreciation and a commemorative coin. All participants received Equal Opportunity credit. Beatrice Gamble and Lorraine Harper (top photo, Gamble middle right) were instrumental in planning and organizing the event.



### A Company, 187th Medical Battalion Neanderthal Warrior Trail Run

Twenty-four Soldiers from Alpha Company, 187th Medical Battalion and the 187th Command Team won first place in the team category at the 2013 Neanderthal 9k Run which was held at Camp Bullis on Nov. 23 by the Training Support Company, 32d Medical Brigade. HOOAH! Train to Save!



## Cont'd, 32d Medical Brigade highlights

### 187th Medical Battalion—Safety Stand-Down Day Train to Save!



Left photo, 187<sup>th</sup> Medical Battalion conducted their quarterly Safety Stand-Down Day on Oct. 24 at the Johnson PT Field. More than 1,000 Soldiers (Students and Cadre) and Civilians attended. The safety topics covered were workplace ergonomics, household and workplace fire safety, cold weather injury awareness, and vehicular safety to include distracted driving and motorcycle safety. Both the San Antonio Police Department and the Fort Sam Houston Fire Department participated as presenters.

Right photo, Motorcycle Safety Man displays the potential consequences of riding a motorcycle without a helmet as demonstrated using a cantaloupe.



Above, San Antonio Police Department participated in the 187th Medical Battalion Safety Stand-Down Day by showing students the effects of impaired vision using "Beer Goggles".

Right photo, the Fort Sam Houston Fire Department participated in the 187th Medical Battalion Safety Stand-Down by allowing students to walk through their "Smoke House", a mock up of living quarters specially designed to "smoke out" its visitors. The "Smoke House" demonstrates some common residential and workplace fire hazards.





## Cont'd, 32d Medical Brigade highlights

### Delta Company, 187th Medical Battalion



At Physician Assistant Day, Oct. 10, several faculty members of the Interservice Physician Assistant Program volunteered to be dunked for canned goods or cash donations for the San Antonio Food Bank. Army Maj. Tin Dang, Navy Lt. j. g. Kyle Burditt and Air Force Lt. Col. Robert Pohl led the effort. Students, Families, and other instructors contributed over 60 canned items and \$36 cash for a chance at getting the faculty wet. Items were given to the food bank Oct. 17.

### 232d Medical Battalion



#### Rwandan escort mission

Second Lieutenant Christopher Givens was chosen as the United States Medical escort liaison to the Rwandan Delegation. The Rwanda delegation included the head of Medical Services, the head of Physical Therapy, and the country's only Neurosurgeon. During their week long visit, their goals were to learn how to set up a Role 2 facility in support of peace keeping missions with the United Nations in Mali, observe physical therapy patients at the Center For the Intrepid, gain insight on developing a graduate level education program and mirror the deployable medical capabilities and techniques taught to our medical personnel. While giving the Rwandan's a taste of Texas at Rudy's BBQ, a curious waitress asked about the differences in uniforms. Once explained, the waitress came back a short time later and presented a gift basket in appreciation to both militaries. Givens was praised by US Army Africa because of his professionalism, selfless service and hospitality.



## Cont'd, 32d Medical Brigade highlights



**Alpha Company, 232d Medical Battalion Soldier medics show community support in Somerset**

On Saturday Oct. 25, the Soldier medics of Alpha Company, 232d Medical Battalion took part in an Adopt-A-Highway. This three hour event involved 14 Soldiers who volunteered to clean a section of the Texas highway system located on FM 2790 at Loop 1604. Concluding the event, a two-mile stretch of Somerset's highway was left looking pristine, as the Class 16-13 Alpha Gators led the way for community service and esprit de corps!



***Congratulations to the following individuals for their outstanding support of the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, a group of dedicated professionals working to accomplish the AMEDDC&S vision and mission.***

### **Achievement Medal for Civilian Service:**

Pete Altman	Timothy Jones
Rosario Avila	Teresa Kawanami
Lorena Bailey	Mary Keill
Michael Baker	Sheila Mays
Elizabeth Barnes	Darrell McKay
William Baskerville	Lester Moses
Francis Cassidy	Richard Nadvornik
Carlos Encarnacion	Esther Rodriguez
Deborah Gilbertson	Jesse Royal
David Harrelson	Rudy Salazar
Dawn Hunt	Hope Seda
James Jones	Reginald Smart

### **Commander's Award for Civilian Service:**

Susan Abbey  
Victor Cartagena  
Olga Cook  
Rashon Potts

### **Superior Civilian Service Award:**

Rosario Avila  
John Davis  
Jeffrey Tierney  
Vivian Mason





## Awards and recognitions — congratulations!



Ronald Mason receives the US Army Certification, Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, for successfully completing all US Army Lean Six Sigma Black Belt certification requirements.



Kathryn Thornberg, Resource Management, is presented the AMEDDC&S Individual Safety Award.



Thomas Bannon is presented the Superior Civilian Service Award in support of the AMEDDC&S.

Maj. Gen. Steve Jones, commanding general, US Army Medical Department Center and School, presented awards and certificates to the AMEDDC&S staff at an awards ceremony in Blesse Auditorium Nov. 14. Civilians and military were recognized for their outstanding support of the AMEDDC&S vision and mission.



Dr. Hope Ruiz receives the AMEDDC&S Organizational Safety Award on behalf of the Staff & Faculty Development Branch, Academy of Health Sciences, Office of the Associate Dean.



Retired Army Lt. Col. Pat McMurry is presented the Order of Military Medical Merit for his contributions to the US Army Medical Department. McMurry also received the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service for his selection as the AMEDDC&S Civilian Employee of the Quarter, Category II, Calendar Year 2013.



Albert Serrano is presented the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service in recognition of his selection as the AMEDDC&S Civilian Employee of the Quarter, Category I, for 3d Quarter, Calendar Year 2013.

**See AWARDS, P22**



## **AWARDS from P21**



Elizabeth Gutierrez is awarded the Superior Performance Award in support of the AMEDDC&S vision.

See AWARDS, P23



Wayne Denson is presented the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service in recognition of his selection as the AMEDDC&S Civilian Employee of the Quarter, Category III, for 3d Quarter, Calendar Year 2013.



The MSM is presented to the following individuals for responding to a victim shooting incident at the AMEDDC&S providing medical intervention saving the victim's life.



Lt. Col. Melvin Bishop



Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Stevenson



Capt. Chad Gagnon



## **AWARDS, from P22**



Staff Sgt. Jerez Totanes



Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence Johannik



Sgt. 1st Class Wilfredo Medina, Jr.



Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Etheredge



Left photo,  
Sgt. 1st Class  
Jacob  
Dower.



Maj. Gina Esparza, Reserve Component Advisor's Office, is presented the Individual Safety Award.

**See AWARDS, P24**



## **AWARDS from P23**



**Staff Sgt. Jeannette McKinnon, C Company, 187th Medical Battalion, receives the Army Achievement Medal. McKinnon was selected as the AMEDDC&S Instructor of the 3rd Quarter, FY 2013.**

**See AWARDS, P25**

**The below individuals received the Department of the Army Certificate of Achievement in recognition of outstanding qualifications in the field of Physical Therapy. The “A” Proficiency Designator is awarded for continued demonstration of exceptional professional ability. Thank you for a job well done. Serving to Heal. Honored to Serve. Signed Patricia D. Horoho, Lt. Gen., The Surgeon General and Commanding General, USAMEDCOM.**



**Lt. Col. Donald Goss**

**Maj. Theodore Croy**

**Lt. Col. Shane Koppenhaver**



**Above, left, Lt. Col. Chad Koenig, and right, Lt. Col. Kerry Story, receive the Department of the Army Certificate of Achievement in recognition of outstanding qualifications in the field of Dietetics. The “A” Proficiency Designator is awarded for continued demonstration of exceptional professional ability.**



## **AWARDS from P24**



Left photo, Col. Steven Eikenberg is presented the US Army Certification, Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt for successfully completing all US Army Lean Six Sigma Black Belt requirements.

***Congratulations to both!***



Left photo, Lt. Col. Kelley Tomsett is presented the US Army Certification, Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, for successfully completing all US Army Lean Six Sigma Black Belt certification requirements.



### **Dental Corps welcomes new Army dentists**

Ten Army dentists were inducted in the Army Dental Corps at an Induction Ceremony held at the AMEDD Museum with Col. Rob Tempel, commander, US Army Dental Command as host, and the 23rd Army Dental Corps Chief, retired Army Maj. Gen. Patrick Sculley as guest speaker. Sculley spoke about the history and legacy of the Army Dental Corps, and the Army Dental heroes and their contributions, such as Silver Star recipient Col. Roy Bodine and Medal of Honor recipient Capt. Ben Saloman, whose artifacts and history are located in the AMEDD Museum. Sculley said, "You are called to serve and to add your own story to our legacy. Every day in the compassion you show to your patients, the leadership you exemplify for your subordinates, and the collegiality you provide to your colleagues you will add to our shared legacy."

Photo by Maj. Michael Story, Dental Corps Executive Officer



## Physician Assistant attends the Filipina Women's Network Leadership Summit as one of the Global100 Most Influential



**Maj. Ameilia Duran-Stanton, an orthopaedic physician assistant and currently the deputy chief of Inspections, Office of the Inspector General, Headquarters, US Army Medical Command, receives her award as one of the Global100 Most Influential Filipina Women in the World.**

Maj. Amelia M. Duran-Stanton, an orthopaedic physician assistant and currently the Deputy Chief of Inspections, Office of the Inspector General, Headquarters, U.S. Army Medical Command, attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Filipina Women's Network Leadership Summit from October 24 to 27. The summit provided several panels and presentations on leadership and mentorship.

Filipina Women's Network (FWN) is the nonprofit professional association for women of Philippine ancestry based in the United States. This is the first year that the organization went global which includes awardees from the United States, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Israel, Japan, China, Poland, Singapore, Thailand and The United Arab Emirates.

Duran-Stanton was awarded amongst "Innovators and Thought Leaders." According to the FWN, this award category "recognizes women who have broken new ground in the marketplace, have delivered new and unique applications of emerging

technology transforming the way people think, in the fields of sports, literature, the arts and pop culture, or have improved the lives of others by helping develop a product or service in the fields of science, engineering, technology, or medicine. This award category is also for someone who have either launched a new enterprise learning function or completely overhauled an existing development or community initiative."

Duran-Stanton was also selected on the Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics panel which discussed how we can continue to mentor and influence young women and girls in choosing these fields. The summit included several discussions on leadership, political activism, and networking. It also challenged all attendees to "Femtor" (female mentorship) up and coming female

FOR PUBLICATION IN THE NEXT AMEDDC&S Newsletter:

All newsletter submissions should be sent NLT the 3rd of each month for posting.

Please send your submissions to Phillip Reidinger and Esther Garcia.

(We reserve the right to edit submissions)

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